

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

PETER A. SPALLUTO  
and ACCESS WITH SUCCESS, INC.  
Plaintiffs

Vs.

HDP, INC.,  
Defendant

CIVIL ACTION NO.:  
05-CV-10385-EFH

**ANSWER OF DEFENDANT HDP, INC.  
TO THE AMENDED COMPLAINT**

**INTRODUCTION**

The defendant, HDP, Inc., in the above entitled action, hereby makes this its Answer to the plaintiffs' Complaint and demand for a jury trial. If not specifically addressed herein, the defendant denies any and all assertions/claims made against it.

**PARTIES**

1. The defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint and call upon the plaintiffs to prove the same.
2. The defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint and call upon the plaintiffs to prove the same.
3. The defendant denies the factual allegations contained in Paragraph 3 of the Complaint. Answering further, the defendant says that the legal assertions contained in Paragraph 3 do not require a response from the defendant;

4. however, to the extent a response is helpful to the Court, the defendant denies that it has violated the Americans with Disabilities Act.
5. The defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of the Complaint and calls upon the plaintiffs to prove the same.
6. Admitted.
7. Admitted.
8. Defendant admits that it owns a restaurant and bar known as Bakey's, located at 45 Broad Street, Boston, Massachusetts.
9. Defendant admits that it owns a restaurant and bar known as Bakey's, located at 45 Broad Street, Boston, Massachusetts.
10. Defendant admits that it owns a restaurant and bar known as Bakey's, located at 45 Broad Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

**SYNOPSIS OF A CAUSE OF ACTION UNDER ADA**

11. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint.
12. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint.
13. Denied.

**JURISDICTION**

14. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint.
15. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint.
16. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint.
17. Denied.
18. Denied.

**COUNT 1 – VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

19. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations in Paragraph 18.
20. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 19 of the Complaint.
21. Denied.
22. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 21 of the Complaint.
23. Admitted.

24. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 23 of the Complaint.
25. Defendant specifically denies that it has made any alterations to Bakey's since its purchase. As for the remainder of the Paragraph, it contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies those additional allegations in Paragraph 24 of the Complaint.
26. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 25.
27. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 26.
28. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 27.
29. Denied.
30. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 29.
31. Defendant denies knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 30.
32. Denied.
33. Denied.
34. Denied.
35. Denied.

- 36. Denied.
- 37. Denied.
- 38. Denied.
- 39. Denied.
- 40. Denied.
- 41. Denied.
- 42. Denied.
- 43. Denied.
- 44. Denied.
- 45. Denied.
- 46. Denied.
- 47. Denied.
- 48. Denied.
- 49. Denied.
- 50. Denied.
- 51. Denied.
- 52. Denied.
- 53. Denied.
- 54. Denied.
- 55. Denied.
- 56. Denied.
- 57. Denied.
- 58. Denied.

59. Denied.

60. Denied.

61. Denied.

62. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 61 of the Complaint.

63. Denied.

64. Denied.

**COUNT II – MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS c. 272, s. 98**

65. Defendant incorporates by reference herein its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 63 of the Complaint.

66. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 65 of the Complaint.

67. Denied.

68. Denied.

69. Defendant denies sufficient knowledge to admit or deny the allegations in Paragraph 68 of the Complaint.

**COUNT III – MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION AND G.L. C. 93 § 103**

70. Defendant incorporates by reference herein its answers to Paragraphs 1 through 69 of the Complaint.

71. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 70 of the Complaint.
72. This Paragraph contains precatory language and states conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent an answer is required, defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 71 of the Complaint.
73. Denied.
74. Denied.
75. Denied.
76. Defendant denies sufficient knowledge to admit or deny the allegations in Paragraph 68 of the Complaint.

**Affirmative Defenses**

**First Affirmative Defense**

Defendant alleges that the Plaintiffs' Complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred by reason of the Defendant's good faith reliance on the advice of others with respect to the restaurant.

**Second Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiffs' Complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the alterations to the restaurant which the plaintiffs contend that the defendant should have made, were not and are not required under federal law, and any requirement to make those changes would impose an undue burden upon the defendant.

**Third Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiffs' Complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the alterations to the restaurant which the plaintiffs contend that the defendant should have made were not and are not required under federal law, because such changes are not readily achievable.

**Fourth Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiffs' complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the alterations to the restaurant which the plaintiffs contend that the defendant should have made, were not and are not required under federal law, and any requirement to make those changes would fundamentally alter the nature of the goods and/or services provided by the defendant at the restaurant.

**Fifth Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiffs' complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the alterations to the restaurant which the plaintiffs contend that the defendant should have made, were not and are not required under federal law, because the restaurant is in the same condition and state that it was in prior to the enactment of the Americans With Disabilities Act, and no alterations to the restaurant have been made since the passage of the Act.

**Sixth Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the plaintiffs' Complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred by the statute of limitations.



**Seventh Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the lead Plaintiff, Peter A. Spalluto, was not a bona fide customer of the restaurant. Instead, if the plaintiff visited the restaurant as he alleges he did, he did so for the sole and exclusive purpose of instituting the present lawsuit.

**Eighth Affirmative Defense**

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiffs' complaint and each purported cause of action alleged therein are barred because the alterations to the restaurant which the plaintiffs contend that the defendant should have made, were not and are not required under federal law because the cost and scope of such alterations would be disproportionate to the cost of any alterations to the restaurant, had any in fact been made.

**Ninth Affirmative Defense**

Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

**Tenth Affirmative Defense**

Plaintiffs' Complaint and each purported cause of action are barred because the plaintiffs have failed to join parties who are indispensable to a resolution of the action, to wit, the owners of the property where the restaurant is situated.

**Eleventh Affirmative Defense**

Because the complaint is couched in conclusory terms, defendant cannot fully anticipate all defenses that may be applicable to the within action. Accordingly, the right to assert additional defenses, if and to the extent such defenses are applicable, is hereby reserved to the extent permitted by law.

WHEREFORE, Defendant prays for Judgment as follows:

1. That the plaintiffs take nothing by their complaint;
2. That the complaint be dismissed in its entirety with prejudice;
3. That plaintiffs be denied each and every demand and prayer for relief contained in their complaint;
4. That the defendant be awarded its costs herein, including reasonable attorneys' fees; and
5. That the Court award the defendant such other and further relief as it deems meet.

**THE DEFENDANT DEMANDS A JURY TRIAL**  
**ON ALL COUNTS SO TRIABLE**

HDP, INC.

By its Attorney,

/s/ Brian J. McMenimen

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Brian J. McMenimen

BBO # 338840

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Dated: April 4, 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that this document filed through ECF system will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing on April 7, 2006.

/s/ Brian J. McMenimen

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Brian J. McMenimen